

The Brave and Mighty Pato

By Reesa Coulson

One bright and sunny Spring day, Pato the duck went out for an afternoon swim in the pond. The pond is home to many creatures, including frogs, bugs, some algae, and many ducks. It was a Friday, and school was almost done for the day. After school is Pato's favourite time. That's when the people come to feed him! Pato's best friends, Lucinda and Albert waddled over and splashed in beside him. "Hello Pato," said Lucinda. "Hi there," Pato replied back. "How has your day been progressing?" asked Albert. "Not much different from the last time you asked me," answered Pato the duck.

Albert is a bit strange. He is a bit of a nerd duck, and his favourite book is the abandoned dictionary that a man left behind in the park a few years ago.

Suddenly, Pato's favourite kid came over with some bird seed and sat on a bench. She is twelve years old and her name is Kayla. 'Hello ducks,' she said in a sweet voice. The three ducks swam closer to her and she threw some bird seed in. The three ducks ate eagerly. Kayla was with her big sister named Arianna, who was talking to her best friend Audrey over at the swings. Some other ducks swam over to Kayla. Their names were Franklin and Stewert. All of the animals in the pond know each other.

Albert blurted out, "I am going to head over to that old fellow over there. He looks lonely." Albert may be strange, but he is one of the kindest ducks in the pond. That's why he's one of Pato's best friends.

A few minutes later, the pond bullies came over. The big buff one is named Roy, the creepy looking one is named Troy, and the quiet but still mean one is Dave. They were all ducks. Just when Arianna came over to Kayla to tell her it was time to go home, the group of bullies bolted over and started quacking as loud as they could. They flew out of the water and dive bombed on Arianna, pecking her and quacking with all their might. Arianna ran as fast as she could, screaming and tumbling. Kayla just watched. She was terrified, but also tried as hard as she could to not burst out laughing. The ducks followed Arianna all the way to the playground. Lucinda was the first duck to notice. "Oh no! The bullies are at it again! Somebody save that poor child!" she hollered.

Pato, with his brave personality, flew out of the pond and crashed into Troy. Troy was screeching with anger and started attacking Pato. But that happened right in front of Dave, who came stumbling over top of them. They came rolling right into Roy who was pecking Arianna at her shoes. Arianna tripped a bit but didn't fall. She started running in the other direction, opening a clear path for the

ducks to roll down a hill and into the field. Pato started flying back to the pond but Dave headbutted him in mid air. Pato started falling but Kayla ran to the rescue and caught Pato. Roy started running over to Kayla but then a random goose who was flying up above heard all of the racket and got annoyed, so the goose flew down and scared all of the evil bullies away. Kayla saw how mad the goose was so she let go of Pato and ran away while Pato defended her off. When Kayla was safe with her sister, they ran out of the park and all the way back to their house. The goose was just about to honk at Pato when a different goose started calling to it. "Come on Dianne, we don't have time for this." "Fine," Dianne said stubbornly. She glared at Pato, then flew back up to the other goose.

Pato waddled back to the pond in shock. "That was really brave," Franklin the duck exclaimed. Before Pato could say anything, Lucinda swam over. "Yes it was. Of course it was. That's one of my best friends over there. Come on. Give this hero some space," Lucinda said. Pato blushed. "Thank you, everyone."

Then Pato looked over at Albert. He was still with the old man, swimming around in circles. The old man was smiling. Pato swam over to Albert. "Did you see what I did?" Pato asked. Albert looked confused. "What do you mean?" Pato smiled. "Oh nothing." Then they swam together for the old man, which made the man smile even more.

The End